An Exact and True

RELATION

Of the dangerous and bloody fight, Betweene His Majesties Army, and the Parliaments Forces, neer *Kyneton* in the County of *Warwicke* the 23 of this instant *October*. Sent in a Letter to *IOHN PYM* Esquire, a Member of the House of COMMONS.

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RELATION

Harvard College
In memory of
Lionel de Jersey Harvard
Class of 1915
August 21 1932

SIR,

WE should do our Army a great deale of wrong, and not discharge our duty of thankfulnesse towards God, if wee tooke not the first occasion to declare his goodnesse, in giving so great a blessing as he hath now done to the resolute and unwearyed endeavors of our Souldiers, fighting for him in the maintenance of his truth, and for themselves and their Country, in defence of their Liberties, and the Privileges of Parliament. This makes us give you now a narration of a blessed Victory which God hath given us upon the Army of the Cavaleers, and of those evill persons, who upon Sunday the 23 of this instant, ingaged His Majestie in a dangerous and bloody fight against His faithfull Subjects, in the Army raised by Authority of Parliament, for the preservation of His Crowne and Kingdome. Wee marched from *Worster*, Wenday the 22. upon intelligence that their Army was moved from *Stratford* and *Bridgenorth*, and bending Southward: our Traine of Artillery was so unready, through want of Draught Horses, and through other oppositions of Monsieur *Du Vall*, that we were forced to leave it behinde to follow us, and with it the regiments of Colonell *Hamden* and Colonell *Grantham*, and staying for it we could advance no further then to a little Market-towne called *Kyneton* in *Warwick shire*, six miles from *Worster*, where we came the Saturday night with 14. regiments of Foote, 4. Troops of Horse, and about 600. Dragoons, in all about seven thousand men: there we intended to keep the Sabbath Day, and had sent for the rest of our Army, and the Carriages of it, that they might come up to us. In the morning when we were going to Church,

We

we had Newes brought us, that the Enemy was two miles from us upon a high Hill, called *Edge-Hill*: Whereupon we presently marched forth into a great broad field under that Hill, called the vale of the said Horse, and made a stand some half a mile from the foote of the Hill, and there drew into Battell: where we saw their Forces come downe the Hill, and draw likewise into Battell in the bottome, a great broad company: Their Forces appeared to be much greater then we could possibly have conceived them to be; by the confession of the prisoners we have taken, they that say least, say Fourteene thousand, which is the Earle of *Lindsey*'s relation, who was their Generall; but others say, eighteene thousand, and above 4000 Horse and Dragoons: the winde was much for their advantage, and they indeavoured to get it more, which to prevent, we were inforced to draw out our left Wing to a great breadth, and by that meanes, before the Battell was done, gained it wholly from them. In our right wing were three Regiments of Horse, the Lord Generalls commanded by Sir *Philip Stapleton*, Sir *William Balfour*, and the Lord *Fielding*, Sir *John Meldrum* brought up the Van. Colonell *Essex* was in the middle, and Colonell *Ballard* with the Lord Generalls regiment, with our the Lord *Brooke* and Colonell *Hollis* in the reare: In the left wing were six troopes of Horse, commanded by Sir *James Ramsey*, their Commissary Generall. In this posture we stood, when the other Army advanced towards us, the strength of their Horse were on their right Wing opposite to our left; In their left Wing they had but ten troopes, but their Foote which appeared to us, divided into nine great bodies, came up all in Front, and after some playing with the Canon on both sides, that part of it which was on their left, and towards our right Wing came on very gallantly to the Charge, and were as gallantly received, and charged by Sir *Philip Stapletons* and Sir *William Balfours* Regiments of Horse, united with the Lord *Roberts* and Sir *William Constables* Regiments of Foote, who did it so home three together, that they forced all the Musquetiers of two of their best Regiments to runne in and throwd themselves within their Pikes, not daring to shoote a shoote, and to stand: When our reare came up, and then charging all together, especially that part of our reare which was placed upon the

Those two Regiments were led on by Sir John Meldrum, and were of his Brigade.

the right hand, and so next unto them; which was the Lord Generals Regiment, and the Lord *Brooks*, led on by Colonel *Ballard* who commanded that Brigade, forced that stand of Pikes, and wholly broke those two Regiments, and slew and took almost every man of them: The Earl of *Lindsey* his Son the Lord *Willoughby*, and some other persons of note are prisoners. Sir *Edmund Verney*, who carried the Kings Standard, was slain by a Gentleman of the Lord Generals Troop of Horse, who did much other good service that day, and the Standard taken, which was afterwards by the Lord General himself delivered unto his Secretary Mr. *Chambers* with an intention to send it back the next day unto His Majesty, but the Secretary after he had carried it long in his hand, suffered it to be taken away by some of our Troopers, and as yet we cannot learn where it is: The other two Regiments of our Rear, Colonel *Hollis*, and Colonel *Ballards*, charged those which were before them, and then the whole body of the Kings Foot, except two other Regiments, ran away: by this time it grew so late and darke, and today the truth, our Ammunition at this present was all spent, that we contented our selves to make good the field, and gave them leave to retire up the Hill in the night: But before we come to this, we will give you an account of what passed in the other parts of our Army, before our Rear came up to charge. Our battaile at the very first wholly disbanded and ran away, without ever striking stroke, or so much as being charged by the enemy, though Colonel *Essex* himself, and others that commanded those Regiments, in chief, did as much as men could do to stay them; but Colonel *Essex* being forsaken by his whole Brigade, went himself into the Van, where both by direction, and his own execution he did most gallant service, till he received a shot in the thigh, of which he is since dead: Now for our Rear, thus it was, before it towards the end side of it stood our left Wing of Horse, advanced a little forward to the top of a hill, where they stood in a Battalio lined with commanded Musquetiers, 400 out of Colonel *Hollis* Regiment, and 200. out of Colonel *Ballards*; but upon the first charge of the Enemy they wheeled about, abandoned their Musquetiers and came running down with the Enemies Horse at their heeles,

and

and brought two men with him, but upon Colonel Home his Regiment and Brigade through, though Colonel Home himself, when he saw them come running towards him, went and planted himself just in the way, and did what possibly he could do to make them stand, at last prevailed with three Troops to wheel a little about and rally, but the rest of our horse of that Wing, and the Enemies horse with them, brake thorough, and ran to Kinross, where most of the Enemy left pursuing them, and fell to plundering of our Waggons, by which many of us have received very great losse, and by name, your servants that now write to you. Notwithstanding their breaking thorough Col. Home his Regiment, it was not affrighted, but together with the other regiments of that Brigade marched up the hill, and so made all the haste they could to come to fight, and got the wind of the enemy, and came on (if we may say it our selves, but we shall do the soldiers right) most gallantly, and charged the Enemy, who were then in fight with our Van, and the right Wing of our horse, and as it was told before, began to defeat the two regiments foremencioned, and place all the rest run, but two other regiments which retired orderly, and actually in the hand, and having the advantage of Ground, and a little before them, held in play very handsomly. And by this time it grew to dark, and our Powder was almost spent, that it was not held fit we should advance upon them. But the Army was put in very good order, drawn up all the forest that night, and stood all the night upon that place where they were, and before the night had drawn into that time toward morning that the Enemy was gone, and retired to the hill. And then we retired also to a warmer place near Kinross, where we had quartered the night before, for we were almost starved with cold in that bitter night, our Army being in extream want of victuals. And about nine or ten of the clock drew our whole Army into Perth, and so stood three or four hours till the Enemy was clean gone from the hill, and then we came into our quarter, and there have rested this night, and this present day, God willing, after we have buried our dead, to march to Aberdeen to refresh our Army, which is exceedingly wearied with so many nights watching, and so long a night which was from noon the

dark

darke night: two particulars must not be omitted, one of Sir *William Balfore*, who in the beginning of the day broke a regiment of Foote which had greene Colours, beat them to their Cannon, where they threw downe their Armes and ran away, he laid his hand upon the Cannon, and called for nailes to nayle them up, especially the two biggest which were Demy-Canon, but finding none, hee cut the ropes belonging to them, and his Troopes killed the Canoneers: Then he pursued the flyers half a mile upon execution, and after returned to Sir *Philip Stapleton*, who in the meane time was charging of the red Regiment, where the Kings Standard was, and had charged it home to push of Pike with the Horse troopes; and they there, together with the help of some of the Foote of our reare, utterly broke it, as you had it before: The other particular was of Sir [illegible], who, when five troopes of the Enemies Horse returned from pursuit of our left Wing, and from plundering some of our Waggons, and passed by the outside of our reare upon the left hand, went and charged them with his troope and made them run: but they finding a gap in the hedge, got away, and returned to the rest of their broken troopes, where they rallyed and made up a kinde of body againe: of the rest [illegible] we could relate unto you many more observable passages, but what you have here will serve your turne at this time: we say, some of both Horse and extraordinary well, and others did as ill, and deserve to be hanged for deserting and betraying as much as lay in them their party, but God alone is to be praised who fought with us, and for us, and made it his owne worke, to give the victory unto his servants: We have lost of note, onely Colonell *Essex*, and we feare the Lord *Saint John* who was dangerously wounded; We here send you a George, found in the field by a common Souldier, and bought of him for twenty shillings by one Captaine *Skinner*; We have promised him he shall have it againe; we onely send it you as one of our trophes that you may see it: we believe you will heare of very many of great quality slaine on the other side; The King Foote are either slaine, or most of them run away, and are now very weake, and should have beene pursued by us, but that wee must of pure necessity refresh our men for three or foure dayes, and then wee shall, God willing, addresse our selves to

finish

finish the worke. In the mean time the very requisite, Letters from the Committee, should be writ into the Countries, which are Southern, to stir them up that they may rise and cut them off, or assist us at least against them; which hoping you will forthwith do, We rest

Your faithfull and humble Servants,

Denzell Hollis. *William Balfore.*

Ph. Stapleton. *Io. Meldrum.*

Tho. Ballard. *Charls Pym.*

Our Lord Generall went last night to *Warwick*, and is there very well, and had he been with us, we should not have presumed to have given you the first Advertisement. His Excellency did gallantly adventure himself that day in the Front against the enemy, exposing himself to more danger then we could have wished.

FINIS.